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18 June 1947

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[REDACTED]

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Thank you for your letter of 3 June which I have delayed answering in the hope that I could give you something definite to go on. I regret that I still have nothing definite. However, I have spoken to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and have shown them your letter.

As it is now, we have asked [REDACTED] to find us someone, and I feel that I cannot do anything until he makes a recommendation one way or the other. As soon as we hear from [REDACTED] I shall advise you.

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Mrs. Hillenkoetter and I hope that we may have the pleasure of seeing you on your next trip to Washington. With very kindest regards, please believe me,

Sincerely,

s/ RHH - Dir. 19 June 47
R. H. HILLENKOEPPER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

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June 3, 1947

Rear Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter
Director, Central Intelligence
25th and E Streets, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

May I recall to your mind the evening we spent together the latter part of April at Merritt Ruddock's. If you will remember, you told me of your need of a scientist who would examine certain material in your office and who would be able to suggest the need of additional information whenever it seemed warranted. You also suggested that I come to see you on the following Monday, and I was very sorry that appointments in Indianapolis and Chicago necessitated my leaving Washington the next day.

Needless to say this matter has been on my mind and I have given it a good deal of thought. I was pretty certain that as soon as you were settled you would probably turn to [] for suggestions as to personnel. On the other hand, the more I thought about it the more I felt that I should at least let you know that I had not forgotten your request to let you know if I knew of anyone who might have the qualifications and who at the same time could be induced to move. Accordingly, I took the liberty of calling Merritt on the phone last week and I asked him if he would be good enough to tell you that I had by no means forgotten our conversation and that I wanted you to understand that I wanted to be helpful in any way possible. I have since heard from Merritt and he tells me that, as I had surmised, you have consulted []

I am writing you this letter to tell you that I realize the importance to your group and to the country of the proper evaluation of scientific information. I myself would, of course, offer my services were it not that I have doubts as to my own qualifications, this despite the fact that I am obviously unaware of the detailed qualifications necessary. In the first place, I have not had any Intelligence experience. Secondly, there are many scientists in the country of far greater attainment and standing than myself. As I see it, the qualifications which I might have are that I would probably know where to go to get specialized information, and possibly I would in general be more prone to seek advice than would someone less aware of their own limitations. Also, I am probably in a better position to make a change in my status, at least temporarily, than would most scientists.

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Admiral Hillenkoetter

6/3/47

In closing may I tell you that I am sure that [] will be able to find you the right man; but I also wish to assure you that if I can be of assistance in any way I hope you will call on me. I very much enjoyed meeting you and Mrs. Hillenkoetter and the evening we spent together at the Ruddock's.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ []

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cc:

Director's Office
Executive Registry
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